Stream Maintenance



Trash and other debris in a stream can block stream flow, which obstructs the migration of native stream animals and increases the risk of flooding to surrounding areas. Help keep Hawaii's streams clean by removing any debris (e.g., fallen trees, leaves) or large objects (e.g., shopping carts, tires) that may obstruct the flow.

Who is responsible?

Under Hawaii law, all landowners are responsible for keeping the portion of stream on their property free of trash and other debris. Land owners may also be liable for any damages to neighboring property resulting in flooding due to improper stream maintenance.

To inquire about property ownership of a stream or surrounding area, contact the Department of Land and Natural Resources' Land Division at (808) 587-0433 with the tax map key parcel number.

Enforcement

Each County has the power to enforce stream maintenance should private property owners fail to properly maintain the stream themselves. Failure to comply with County ordinances may result in a maximum penalty of \$500 for each day the violation continues.

Illegal Dumping

If you witness an illegal dumping into the stream, please call 911 and make a report. Be sure to note the vehicle's license plate number, description, location of the dump site, and types of materials disposed.

To report an existing illegal dump site, call the Hawaii State Department of Health at the numbers below.

Oahu 586-4309

Hilo 933-0401 Kauai 241-3323 Kona 322-1507 Maui 984-8234

Visit us on the internet at http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/cwrm/.





